

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A method is disclosed for determining when a request for a higher transmission rate should be granted to a mobile station that currently has access to a communication system to facilitate the maintenance of a performance target (quality of service level) of the reverse link.

5      The method for determining when a mobile station can have access to a higher transmission rate includes obtaining first and second estimated performance indicators for a reverse link of the base station that a mobile station is currently accessing. A blocking threshold value is established. Access at the requested higher transmission rate is based on a comparison of the first and second indicators relative to the established blocking threshold value. If access is denied at the requested  
10     higher rate, access will be granted at the next lower rate which will not degrade the performance of the wireless communication system.